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In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-5, 9 and 23-24, without disclaimer or prejudice.

Please add the following new claim:

B2 Sub C47
25. A variant of KGF-2 selected from the group of amino acid sequences consisting of methionylated or non-methionylated NH₂-His-Val-Arg-Ser-Tyr-[Asn⁷¹-Ser²⁰⁸]-COOH.

ADD C57

Please amend the claims as follows:

Sub 1
6. (Amended) The variant of KGF-2 according to [any one of Claims 1 through 5] Claim 25, wherein said amino acid sequence is nonglycosylated.

B3
7. (Amended) The variant of KGF-2 according to [any one of Claims 1 through 5] Claim 25, wherein said amino acid sequence is glycosylated.

8. (Amended) A chemical derivative comprising a water soluble polymer conjugated to a variant of KGF-2 according to [any one of Claims 1 through 7] Claim 25.

B4 Sub 57
10. (Amended) A polynucleotide encoding the variant of KGF-2 according to [any one of Claims 1 through 7] Claim 25.

Sub 57
19. (Amended) The variant of KGF-2 according to Claim [1] 25 which is the recombinant expression product of a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell containing an exogenous polynucleotide of Claim 10.

B5 Sub 57
20. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the variant of KGF-2 according to [any one of Claims 1 through 7] Claim 25 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

Remarks

Claims 1-5, 9 and 23-24 have been canceled without disclaimer or prejudice. Applicants specifically reserve the right to later pursue the subject matter of such canceled claims.